



WISCONSIN FARM REPORTER

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Compiled in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and is available on request.

Robert J. Battaglia, Director

February Milk Production

Wisconsin milk production totaled 2.01 billion pounds in February 2011, up 10.0 million pounds from a year ago. Milk per cow averaged 1,585 pounds, unchanged from last February. The number of milk cows in the state, at 1.27 million, was up 1,000 from last month and up 6,000 from a year ago. As of March 1, 2011, Wisconsin had 12,342 licensed milk cow herds, down 36 from last month and down 530 from February 2010.

Milk production in February in the 23 major states grew by 2 percent over the previous year. Milk per cow averaged 1,666 pounds, a rise of 24 pounds over last year. The number of milk cows, at 8.40 million, was the same as last month, and 81,000 more than last February.

Seventeen of the 23 major milk producing states had higher production when compared with last February, 5 states had lower production, and 1 state, Ohio, was unchanged. Production in Texas jumped 9 percent, bolstered by greater cow numbers and higher milk per cow. New York's production rose 4 percent. Herd numbers in New York did not change when compared with last year, but milk per cow rose by 60 pounds. Despite having more cows, Minnesota's milk per cow fell by 15 pounds, leading to a 1 percent decrease in production.

February Milk Production

| State | Milk cows 1/ | | Rate per cow 2/ | | Production 2/ | | Pro- duction % chnge 2011/10 |
|----------------|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|----------------|--------|---------------------------------------|
| | 2010 | 2011 | 2010 | 2011 | 2010 | 2011 | |
| | Thousand head | | Pounds | | Million pounds | | Percent |
| WI | 1,260 | 1,266 | 1,585 | 1,585 | 1,997 | 2,007 | +1 |
| CA | 1,760 | 1,752 | 1,755 | 1,805 | 3,089 | 3,162 | +2 |
| ID | 554 | 573 | 1,690 | 1,690 | 936 | 968 | +3 |
| MI | 355 | 362 | 1,765 | 1,780 | 627 | 644 | +3 |
| MN | 470 | 471 | 1,510 | 1,495 | 710 | 704 | -1 |
| NM | 318 | 324 | 1,870 | 1,890 | 595 | 612 | +3 |
| NY | 610 | 610 | 1,560 | 1,620 | 952 | 988 | +4 |
| PA | 541 | 543 | 1,520 | 1,510 | 822 | 820 | n.c. |
| TX | 410 | 425 | 1,640 | 1,720 | 672 | 731 | +9 |
| 23-state total | 8,323 | 8,404 | 1,642 | 1,666 | 13,670 | 14,001 | +2 |

1/Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/Excludes milk sucked by calves. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO.

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- February Milk Production
- Cold Storage
- March Milk Prices
- February Livestock Slaughter
- Hogs
- Cropland Cash Rents
- Agricultural Prices

This Farm Reporter contains the results from the following surveys. Thanks for your help!

Milk Production Report
Monthly Cold Storage Report
March Hog Report
Cash Rents Survey
Livestock Slaughter
Prices Received Report

Cold Storage Stocks, United States

| Commodity | February 28, 2010 | January 31, 2011 | February 28, 2011 | Change from last year |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 1,000 pounds | | | Percent |
| CHEESE | | | | |
| American | 599,152 | 637,935 | 622,226 | +4 |
| Swiss | 27,379 | 36,320 | 34,662 | +27 |
| Other natural | 369,384 | 378,142 | 379,086 | +3 |
| Total | 995,915 | 1,052,397 | 1,035,974 | +4 |
| BUTTER | 202,896 | 118,784 | 138,656 | -32 |
| FROZEN | | | | |
| Beef | 404,505 | 461,734 | 467,681 | +16 |
| Pork | 515,911 | 538,754 | 578,064 | +12 |
| Chicken | 627,816 | 769,538 | 715,405 | +14 |
| Turkey | 342,418 | 253,527 | 296,396 | -13 |

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

March Milk Prices

Wisconsin farmers received an average price of \$19.20 per hundredweight (cwt.) for their milk in February 2011, up \$3.20 from February 2010. The March 2011 price is expected to increase \$1.80 to \$21.00 per cwt.

The expected U.S. milk price for March is \$20.40 per cwt., \$1.30 higher than last month, but 60 cents lower than Wisconsin's price. All states are expecting an increase from February to March. Idaho and Florida are predicting the largest gains in price, rising \$2.10 to \$20.00 and \$24.00 per cwt., respectively. California is anticipating the smallest gain, up 39 cents to \$18.40, which is also the lowest price of any of the major milk producing states.

The Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) 40-pound block cheese price closed at \$1.6325 per pound on March 30, while barrels were \$1.6175 per pound. The CME butter price was \$2.0000 per pound.

For the week ending March 19, 2011 the National Agricultural Statistics Service U.S. weekly 40-pound block cheese price averaged \$2.0036 per pound, and 500 pound barrels adjusted to 38 percent moisture averaged \$1.9875 per pound. The U.S. butter price was \$2.1156 per pound.

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Class III price for March is \$19.40 per cwt.

Milk Prices 1/

| Selected states | February 2010 | | February 2011 | | March 2011 | |
|-------------------|----------------|----------|----------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| | Price per cwt. | Fat Test | Price per cwt. | Fat Test | Price per cwt. | Fat Test |
| | Dollars | Percent | Dollars | Percent | Dollars | Percent |
| Milk for all uses | | | | | | |
| WI | 16.00 | 3.71 | 19.20 | 3.77 | 21.00 | 3.75 |
| CA | 14.22 | 3.74 | 18.01 | 3.77 | 18.40 | 3.71 |
| ID | 14.10 | 3.66 | 17.90 | 3.75 | 20.00 | 3.72 |
| MI | 16.70 | 3.68 | 19.20 | 3.74 | 21.20 | 3.71 |
| MN | 15.90 | 3.77 | 19.50 | 3.80 | 20.40 | 3.76 |
| NM | 15.50 | 3.69 | 18.50 | 3.76 | 19.70 | 3.65 |
| NY | 16.80 | 3.77 | 19.60 | 3.82 | 21.30 | 3.79 |
| PA | 18.10 | 3.75 | 20.70 | 3.80 | 22.50 | 3.75 |
| TX | 16.80 | 3.88 | 19.90 | 3.95 | 21.00 | 3.89 |
| US | 15.90 | 3.73 | 19.10 | 3.79 | 20.40 | 3.74 |

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. All milk price published by NASS reflects the gross milk price received by farmers. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO.

Another Month of Record Low Veal, Lamb and Mutton Production

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.81 billion pounds in February, up 2 percent from the 3.74 billion pounds produced in February 2010.

Beef production, at 2.02 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.62 million head, up 3 percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,286 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.5 million pounds, 2 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 68,800 head, down 7 percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from last year, at 264 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.77 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.51 million head, down 2 percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.9 million pounds, was down 12 percent from February 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 155,100 head, 13 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up 1 pound from February a year ago.

January to February 2011 commercial red meat production was 7.85 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 12 percent.

February 2010 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. February 2011 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial Slaughter 1/, February 2011

| Species | Wisconsin | Change from last year | U. S. | Change from last year |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| | 1,000 hd | Percent | 1,000 hd | Percent |
| Cattle, all | 130.0 | +2 | 2,622.3 | +3 |
| Calves | 8.3 | +38 | 68.8 | -7 |
| Hogs, all | 41.5 | +8 | 8,508.6 | -2 |
| Sheep and lambs | 0.5 | n.c. | 155.1 | -13 |

1/Excludes farm slaughter. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

Commercial Red Meat Production, United States 1/

| Type | Feb. 2010 | Jan. 2011 | Feb. 2011 | Jan - Feb. 2/ | | Change from last year |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-------|-----------------------|
| | | | | 2010 | 2011 | |
| | Million pounds | | | | | Percent |
| Beef | 1,955 | 2,124 | 2,021 | 4,037 | 4,145 | +3 |
| Veal | 11 | 11 | 11 | 22 | 21 | -5 |
| Pork | 1,758 | 1,896 | 1,769 | 3,567 | 3,665 | +3 |
| Lamb & mutton | 12 | 11 | 11 | 25 | 22 | -12 |
| Total red meat 3/ | 3,736 | 4,042 | 3,811 | 7,652 | 7,853 | +3 |

1/Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

2/Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data. 3/Totals may not equal sum of the parts due to rounding. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO.

U.S. Hog Inventory Up 1 Percent

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2011 was 64.0 million head. This was up 1 percent from March 1, 2010, but down 1 percent from December 1, 2010. Breeding inventory, at 5.79 million head, was up slightly from both last year and the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 58.2 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The December 2010-February 2011 U.S. pig crop, at 28.0 million head, was up 1 percent from 2010 but down 2 percent from 2009. Sows farrowing during this period totaled

2.86 million head, down 1 percent from 2010 and down 5 percent from 2009. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.80 for the December 2010-February 2011 period, compared to 9.61 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.90 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

Wisconsin hog and pig data is only published annually in December. To access the entire hog report go to: www.nass.usda.gov/results

Non-Irrigated Cropland Cash Rent: Value, by Counties, Wisconsin 2009-2010

| County | 2009 | 2010 | County | 2009 | 2010 |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| | Dollars per acre | | | Dollars per acre | |
| Barron | 52.00 | 53.50 | Brown | 96.00 | 94.00 |
| Bayfield | 20.00 | 22.00 | Calumet | 85.00 | 88.50 |
| Burnett | 33.00 | 33.00 | Door | 52.00 | 51.00 |
| Chippewa | 67.00 | 69.00 | Fond du Lac | 89.00 | 87.00 |
| Douglas | 17.00 | 15.00 | Kewaunee | 85.50 | 85.50 |
| Polk | 50.00 | 50.00 | Manitowoc | 76.00 | 79.00 |
| Rusk | 31.00 | 31.00 | Outagamie | 81.00 | 81.00 |
| Sawyer | 31.00 | 29.00 | Sheboygan | 65.50 | 68.00 |
| Washburn | 34.00 | 32.00 | Winnebago | 77.00 | 75.00 |
| Northwest | 46.00 | 46.00 | East Central | 79.00 | 78.50 |
| Ashland | 17.50 | 1/ | Crawford | 81.00 | 79.00 |
| Clark | 52.00 | 51.00 | Grant | 136.00 | 137.00 |
| Lincoln | 30.00 | 30.00 | Iowa | 117.00 | 121.00 |
| Marathon | 50.00 | 49.00 | Lafayette | 163.00 | 164.00 |
| Price | 30.00 | 1/ | Richland | 82.00 | 80.00 |
| Taylor | 47.00 | 45.00 | Sauk | 91.00 | 88.00 |
| North Central | 41.00 | 40.50 | Vernon | 87.00 | 89.00 |
| Langlade | 44.00 | 49.00 | Southwest | 116.00 | 116.00 |
| Marinette | 50.00 | 50.00 | Columbia | 110.00 | 118.00 |
| Oconto | 56.00 | 57.00 | Dane | 120.00 | 124.00 |
| Shawano | 55.00 | 59.00 | Dodge | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| Northeast | 51.00 | 53.50 | Green | 113.00 | 118.00 |
| Buffalo | 72.50 | 77.00 | Jefferson | 110.00 | 110.00 |
| Dunn | 62.00 | 66.00 | Rock | 134.00 | 139.00 |
| Eau Claire | 63.00 | 66.00 | South Central | 120.00 | 124.00 |
| Jackson | 70.50 | 76.00 | Kenosha | 99.00 | 97.00 |
| La Crosse | 86.00 | 89.00 | Racine | 95.00 | 93.00 |
| Monroe | 71.00 | 77.00 | Walworth | 126.00 | 130.00 |
| Pepin | 84.00 | 88.00 | Washington | 72.50 | 77.00 |
| Pierce | 76.00 | 78.00 | Waukesha | 77.50 | 78.50 |
| St. Croix | 65.00 | 70.00 | Southeast | 90.00 | 89.50 |
| Trempealeau | 76.00 | 80.00 | | | |
| West Central | 72.00 | 75.50 | Wisconsin | 84.00 | 87.00 |
| Adams | 56.50 | 56.50 | | | |
| Green Lake | 86.50 | 86.50 | | | |
| Juneau | 62.00 | 69.00 | | | |
| Marquette | 50.00 | 55.00 | | | |
| Portage | 51.00 | 54.00 | | | |
| Waupaca | 53.00 | 60.00 | | | |
| Waushara | 45.00 | 46.00 | | | |
| Wood | 45.00 | 45.00 | | | |
| Central | 57.00 | 60.00 | | | |

1/ Not published. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

Prices Received by Farmers

Prices in Wisconsin for milk, potatoes, and other hay were expected to increase from February to March 2011, while prices for corn, soybeans, and oats were expected to decrease during the same period. Alfalfa hay is expected to remain at the same level as in February.

Corn in Wisconsin sold for an average price of \$5.43 per bushel in mid-March. This was 16 cents less than the previous month's price, but \$1.87 more than the price in March 2010. Nationwide corn prices averaged \$5.46 per bushel in mid-March.

The average price for Wisconsin soybeans was \$12.00 per bushel in mid-March, 90 cents less than February's price, but \$2.67 more than the price in March 2010. Across the United States soybeans sold for an average of \$12.10 per bushel in mid-March.

Wisconsin oats averaged \$2.90 per bushel in mid-March, 22 cents less than in the previous month, but 90 cents more than in March 2010. Nationally, mid-March oat prices averaged \$3.12 per bushel.

Alfalfa hay in Wisconsin sold for an average price of \$100.00 per ton as of mid-March, level with the previous month, but \$20.00 less than in March 2010. The average price for other hay types was \$75.00 per ton in mid-March. This was an increase of \$5.00 from February, but \$10.00 less than the price in March of last year.

Prices Received

| Commodity | Unit | Wisconsin | | | U.S. | |
|----------------------|------|------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| | | March 2010 | Feb. 2011 | Mar. 15, 2011 | Mar. 2010 | Mar. 15, 2011 |
| | | Dollars | | | Dollars | |
| Milk, all | Cwt. | 14.70 | 19.20 | 21.00 | 14.80 | 20.40 |
| Corn | Bu. | 3.56 | 5.59 | 5.43 | 3.55 | 5.46 |
| Oats | Bu. | 2.00 | 3.12 | 2.90 | 2.29 | 3.12 |
| Soybeans | Bu. | 9.33 | 12.90 | 12.00 | 9.39 | 12.10 |
| Potatoes, all 1/ 2/ | Cwt. | 9.75 | 11.00 | 11.50 | 7.42 | 9.95 |
| Fresh | Cwt. | 5.20 | 12.70 | - | 5.26 | - |
| Processing | Cwt. | 11.30 | 10.10 | - | 8.86 | - |
| Alfalfa hay, baled | Ton | 120.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 113.00 | 136.00 |
| Other hay, baled | Ton | 85.00 | 70.00 | 75.00 | 95.30 | 97.30 |
| Milk cows 3/ | Head | - | - | - | - | - |
| Steers & heifers 4/ | Cwt. | - | - | - | 95.70 | 116.00 |
| Cows 4/ 5/ | Cwt. | - | - | - | 53.50 | 73.40 |
| Calves 4/ | Cwt. | - | - | - | 117.00 | 148.00 |
| Hogs, all 4/ | Cwt. | - | - | - | 52.10 | 62.70 |
| Wheat, all 4/ | Bu. | - | - | - | 4.70 | 7.63 |
| Winter Wheat, all | Bu. | - | - | - | 4.45 | 6.82 |
| Barley, all 4/ | Bu. | - | - | - | 4.22 | 4.58 |
| Dry Edible Beans 4/ | Cwt. | - | - | - | 29.70 | 30.30 |
| Apples, fresh use 4/ | Lb. | - | - | - | 0.30 | 0.29 |

1/Entire month. 2/Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed, and livestock feed. 3/Milk cow prices are published quarterly for January, April, July, and October. 4/Monthly estimates for steers & heifers, beef cattle, calves, hogs, wheat, barley, dry edible beans, and apples are not published for Wisconsin. 5/Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

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